IN THE MATTER OF

BEFORE THE

CHRISTINA HAMILTON, PHARM TECH*

STATE BOARD

Registration No.: T07563

OF

Respondent

PHARMACY

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Pursuant to Md. State Govt. Code Ann. §10-226 (c) (2) (2009 Repl. Vol.), the State Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") hereby suspends the registration to practice as a Pharmacy Technician (Pharm Tech) in Maryland issued to Christina Hamilton, (the "Respondent"), under the Maryland Pharmacy Act (the "Act"), Md. Health Occ. Code Ann. § 12-101, et seg., (2009 Repl. Vol.). This Order is based on the following investigative findings, which the Board has reason to believe are true:

BACKGROUND

- At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was registered to practice as a Pharm Tech in Maryland. The Respondent was first registered on June 21, 2010. The Respondent's registration expires on March 31, 2012.
- 2. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was employed as a Pharm Tech for a National chain pharmacy at a location in Baltimore County.
- 3. On or about the late afternoon of December 24, 2010, the Pharmacy Manager of that pharmacy called the Baltimore County Police Department's Diversion Unit to advise it that she suspected the Respondent of passing fraudulent prescriptions. An officer responded and investigated and the Respondent admitted orally and in

writing that she had a friend steal a physician's prescription pads and write out prescriptions for Oxycodone in the Respondent's grandmother's name, which the Respondent had filled at her job and for which she paid for in cash. In return, she would give the friend half of the pills and the Respondent would keep half for herself, some of which she would consume and others which she would sell.

4. As a result of which, the Respondent was terminated from employment and was criminally charged. On April 28, 2011, in the District Court for Baltimore County, the Respondent pled "Not Guilty" to but was found "Guilty" of CDS prescription obtained by forgery. She was fined \$1000, with \$55.20 in costs, with the \$1000 suspended. She also received a PBJ, with the Probation ending on October 28, 2012. She was given 18 months imprisonment, with the entire 18 months suspended.

FINDINGS OF FACT

As set forth above, by stealing narcotics from her employer by passing fraudulent prescriptions which she consumed herself or sold, the Respondent is a threat to the public health, welfare or safety.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing, the Board finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, pursuant to Md. St. Gov't. Code Ann. §10-226(c) (2) (2009 Repl. Vol.).

ORDER

Based on the foregoing, it is therefore this <u>June</u>, 2011, by a majority vote of a quorum of the State Board of Pharmacy, by authority granted by the Board by Md. St. Govt. Code Ann. § 10-226(c) (2) (2009 Repl. Vol.), the registration held by the Respondent to practice as a Pharm Tech in Maryland, Registration No. T05763, is hereby SUMMARILY **SUSPENDED**; and be it further

ORDERED, that upon the Board's receipt of a written request from the Respondent, a Show Cause Hearing shall be scheduled within a reasonable time of said request, at which the Respondent will be given an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Summary Suspension should be continued, regarding the Respondent's fitness to practice as a Pharm Tech and the danger to the public; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Respondent shall immediately turn over to the Board her wall certificate and wallet-sized registration to practice as a Pharm Tech issued by the Board; and be it further

ORDERED, that this document constitutes a final Order of the Board and is therefore a public document for purposes of public disclosure, as required by Md. State Gov't Code Ann. §10-617(h) (2009 Repl. Vol.).

Verne G. Naesea, Executive Director

Board of Pharmacy

NOTICE OF HEARING

A Show Cause hearing to determine whether the Summary Suspension shall be continued will be held before the Board at 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, 21215 following a written request by the Respondent for same.